

REMARKS

The Applicant respectfully requests reopening of prosecution for the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. Claims 1 and 8 are currently being amended. After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-28 remain pending in this application.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

In the Decision on Appeal, the Board provided a new ground of rejection for claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-14, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,477,152 to Hiett. The Board members stated that “the invention is not limited to receiving signals transmitted a few meters, but can be larger distances.” The Board further stated that “from the disclosure [of Hiett] that the in-airport system is for use by aircraft operating within the airport, we find a suggestion of aircraft using the system at any distance within the airport.”

Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to recite that the direct broadcast very low range receiver is limited to receiving signals transmitted from within a very short range. Accordingly, in this way, several mobile platforms can communicate to several docking areas without interference and without utilizing different frequency ranges. (Application, p. 16, lines 13-17) This advantage cannot be realized by the system of Hiett, configured to operate at any distance within the airport, and is not taught or suggested by Hiett. Entry and consideration of the amendments to claims 1 and 8 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and include all of the limitations thereof. Claims 9-17 depend from claim 8 and include all of the limitations thereof. These claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend. Although the Board affirmed the rejection of claims 3, 10 and 15 under 103(a), the independent claims from which these claims depend have been amended. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-7 and 9-17 is respectfully requested.

Claims 18-28 have previously been indicated as allowable. Claims 18-28 remain pending in this application.

The Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Reopening and favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 18-1722. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 18-1722.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, the Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 18-1722.

Respectfully submitted,

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